

Criminal and Juvenile Justice Information Task Force

Legislative Budget Request Form

Request Description

Describe the item or project for which you are requesting funding.

Justice partners are requesting automatic integration between the courts Integration Services and their individual case and content management systems. Justice Partners seek the ability to obtain a detailed listing of all documents filed within a particular case, and the ability to select multiple documents to be received from the courts. The courts Integration Services would then send the selected documents electronically to the justice partner, assuming that the justice partner has been authorized by the court to receive the type of document(s) requested. All documents sent would be tagged with Court file # metadata. Additionally, the justice partners are also seeking integration with the courts to be notified electronically via their case and content managements systems of any newly filed documents for cases in which they are listed as the attorney of record, or party to the case, rather than being provided individual emails notifying them of new documents to download via EFS.

Estimated Cost: \$1,250,000

Statewide Impact/Value

Describe the statewide impact and/or value of the item or project described above.

This project will help reduce delays and continuances in criminal and juvenile courts by providing justice partners with prompt and efficient access to court documents needed in the prosecution and defense of cases. Lack of information is a common reason for courtroom delays and continuances. Delays and continuances are expensive for each criminal justice partner: jailers must house defendants longer and transport prisoners more frequently; judges and clerks must staff courtrooms for longer hours; probation and court services staff must provide the personnel needed to wait through the delays; lawyers often need to appear multiple times per case. Reducing delays will reduce costs for all criminal justice partners and help the courts achieve timely cases disposition objectives required by Minn. Stat. 631.021.

Background/Context

Describe the issue this request is designed to address.

The New Minnesota Government Access system (MGA) does not provide justice partners with efficient access to court documents needed in a fast paced, high volume courtroom environment. MGA requires each user to logon, query a specific court file, and select only an individual document to download or view. MGA also does not provide the user with an efficient way to import needed documents into their case and content management systems. The process of using MGA to access, retrieve and store documents is slow, repetitive and unsustainable because of the sheer volume of cases that justice partners handle.

Submitted By: Kathy Hoyle
Phone Number: 612-279-3511

Organization Representing: Board of Public Defense
Email Address: Kathleen.hoyle@pubdef.state.mn.us

Submitted By: Mark Ostrem
Phone Number: 507-328-7600

Organization Representing: Minn. County Atty. Assoc.
Email Address: Ostrem.mark@co.olemsted.mn.us